

**Reconnaissance Findings and Observations**  
**Flexi Van Leasing (General Diesel)**  
**ILD 089082358**

On September 5, 1991, B&V Waste Science and Technology Corp. (BVWST) conducted a site reconnaissance of the General Diesel Site in Elk Grove Village, Illinois. This task was performed as part of the Screening Site Investigation (SSI) for that site. The BVWST inspection team consisted of Ramona Reints and Miguel Sanchez. The General Diesel facility representative interviewed was Mr. Andy Applian, who is also the owner of the property. The sky was clear and sunny, the winds were calm, and the temperature was approximately 70°F on the day of the reconnaissance.

The reconnaissance for this site began at 9:45 a.m. The inspection team first gave Mr. Applian a brief description of the purpose for the reconnaissance and then proceeded to gather information on a question-and-answer basis. The following paragraphs summarize the results of the reconnaissance.

Mr. Applian stated that he is the owner of the site. He bought the property in 1975 or 1976 and is currently paying on a mortgage to Talman Bank. The name of the company is General Diesel. The site is used for truck repairs and has limited trailer and equipment storage. Mr. Applian claims to have no knowledge of Flexi Van Leasing. The site is located at 2200 E. Higgins Road in Elk Grove Village, Illinois. The site is still active, but according to Mr. Applian, business is slow. He is the only person currently working there.

No evidence of CERCLA regulated substances ever being present was observed at this site, nor is there any monitoring being done. According to Mr. Applian, only one trailer containing cyanide contaminated plastic chips was ever located at the site. He stated that the trailer broke down near the intersection of Oakton and Higgins Road and was hauled to his property and deposited there without his permission. This incident occurred after work hours. Following an inspection by EPA officials, a fence was erected around the trailer and a 24-hour security guard was posted. A few weeks later, the trailer was removed by



EPA and a truck with a vacuum was used to clear the site of any chips. Mr. Applian has no analytical information for the site. He stated he attended court proceedings regarding the cyanide chip incident and that those records may provide us with additional information. He does not have any court records.

There are no fences or other barriers to restrict access to the property from the outside. Vehicular access to the property is via a driveway connecting the lot to Higgins Road. A gate is located at the driveway entrance to control access, but it is maintained open at all times.

There is one building on the site. It is approximately 65 feet by 60 feet and is used as a truck repair garage. Mr. Applian stated that he had this building constructed and an old house torn down in 1976 when he bought the property. Power lines run along the south side of the facility, adjacent to Higgins Road. Gas and water lines are located underground running from the building out to the main line along Higgins Road. No other structures are located on the site.

There is an asphalt parking lot in the southeastern section of the site, between the building and Higgins Road. A driveway is located in this area for vehicular access. The surface of the rest of the site, outside of the building, consists of gravel and sparse vegetation. There are no other transportation facilities in the vicinity of the site.

The General Diesel property is basically flat. There are no depressions or elevated areas on-site. A small hill is located to the west of the facility, an adjacent property. Mr. Applian stated that the hill was formed during clearing and excavation activities for a proposed building on the neighboring property, but the building was never built. The general direction of surface drainage is towards the southeast corner of the property. The property slopes slightly in that direction. There are no water table indicators (ponds, streams, wetlands) on the surface, nor are there any surface water drainage control devices.

Land in the vicinity is primarily used for commercial purposes. However, the land

immediately surrounding the General Diesel site on the south, east, and west sides is undeveloped. This land contains trees and vegetation. Directly south of the site, across Higgins Road, is a State Commercial Drivers License Truck/Bus Testing Center.

There were no manufactured containers on site at the time of the reconnaissance which contained CERCLA regulated substances. However, semi-trailers can potentially be used to store hazardous substances. Three trailers were parked on site of the time of the site reconnaissance. Several trucks and construction equipment were also stored in the north and southwestern sections of the site. No evidence of releases to the environment was observed.

The General Diesel has a potable water source, a tap water hookup, an accessible on-site telephone, a fire extinguisher hanging on the wall, a garbage service, and toilets which can be used by BVWST workers when on-site. Police services are provided by the Cook County Sheriff, and fire and ambulance emergencies are handled by the Elk Grove Village Fire Department. The nearest hospital is Alexian Bros. located at 800 W. Biesterfield Road in Elk Grove Village, Illinois. The hospital can be contacted at (708) 437-5500. The emergency room extension is 4307. Mr. Applian has no objection to the use of radio communication on site.

Mr. Applian then gave the inspection team a tour of the site. Photographs of the entire site were taken during the tour. The tour ended at approximately 11:40 a.m. The inspection team then thanked Mr. Applian and left the site.

During lunch, the inspection team reviewed the information gathered during the site reconnaissance. The inspection team returned to the General Diesel site at 12:45 p.m. to have Mr. Applian sign the Explanation of Sampling Conditions form. During this visit, Mr. Applian stated that a maximum of 10 to 14 trailers could be parked on-site at any one time. The reconnaissance was completed at 1:15 p.m.

## EXPLANATION OF SAMPLING CONDITIONS

The second on-site phase of a CERCLIS screening site inspection is the sampling visit. The BVWST sampling team needs an estimated two days at your site to sample soil and/or water to be analyzed for the chemical compounds and metals regulated by EPA under CERCLA. The site owner receives a copy of the final Screening Site Inspection Report, which contains analytical results of site samples taken by the BVWST team. However, if you want portions of any samples taken by BVWST, we are responsible to provide them under the following conditions:

1. You supply your own sample containers, which must meet the EPA Region V Analytical Operations Branch specifications. Write to 230 South Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois 60604 for the specifications. In addition, you supply the iced coolers to transport the samples to your chosen laboratory for analysis; and

2. Cost of analysis by your chosen laboratory must be paid by you.

During sampling, small quantities of excess soil and/or water are produced as well as small quantities of rinse water, detergent solution, and methanol from sampling equipment decontamination. EPA instructs us to return all produced soil and/or water to its point of origin and return the sampled area to original condition as much as possible. The rinse water will be poured into the suspected contaminated areas, as it is greatly reduced in contaminant concentration. However, the detergent solution and methanol must be held temporarily on site in secure containers (which BVWST provides) until we arrange their transport by a licensed hazardous waste hauler under proper manifesting to either a licensed treatment or disposal facility.

We send two Sampling Conditions Explanation copies. Please provide the information indicated below, sign one copy and give it to the BVWST Team Leader during the reconnaissance and interview. Thank you for your cooperation.

As owner / operator (mark out inappropriate term) of the General Diesel site, CERCLIS ID NO. ~~ILD089082358~~ ILD 089 082 358  
1. ~~I want~~ do not want (mark out inappropriate term) a separate suite of samples taken by the BVWST Team, and

2. I agree to the temporary holding, if deemed necessary by BVWST, on the site of materials produced by the sampling procedures until their removal by a licensed hazardous waste hauler.

Signed

Name printed

Title

Date

Andrew A. Apollonia  
Andrew A. Apollonia  
Owner  
9-5-91

